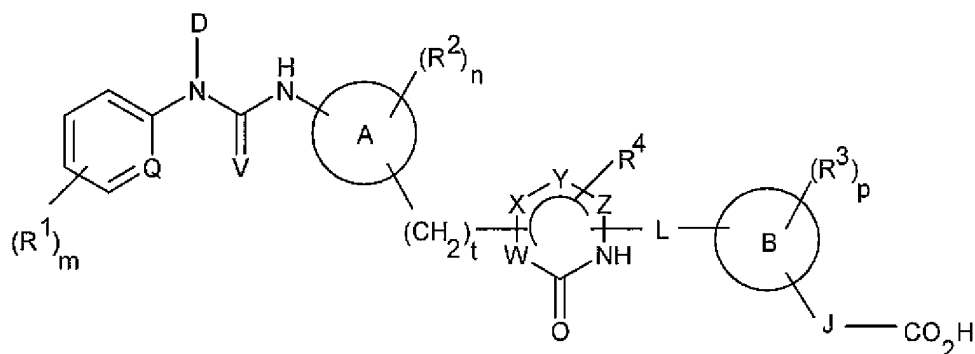


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. **(Currently Amended)** A compound of formula (I), a carboxylic acid ester or a pharmaceutically acceptable ~~derivative~~ salt thereof:



(I)

wherein

A and B are independently aryl or heteroaryl;

Q is C, CH or together with the group V or group D forms a 5 - 7 membered heterocyclic ring;

D is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or together with the group Q forms a 5 - 7 membered heterocyclic ring;

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, hydroxy, cyano, CF<sub>3</sub>, nitro, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylthio, amino, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamino, carboxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyl, amido, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamido, NHCOR<sup>9</sup> or NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup> in which R<sup>9</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl or phenyl (optionally substituted by up to three groups selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, cyano, phenyl or CF<sub>3</sub>) or is a group -E-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-6</sub>NR<sup>x</sup>R<sup>y</sup> in which E is a single bond or -OCH<sub>2</sub>- and R<sup>x</sup> and R<sup>y</sup> are independently hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or combine together to form a 5 - 7 membered heterocyclic ring;

$R^4$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, halogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy;

V is O, S, NH, N- $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $NNO_2$ , NCN or together with the group Q forms a 5 - 7 membered heterocyclic ring;

W, X, Y and Z are independently C, CH or  $CH_2$ ;

----- represents a single or double bond;

L is  $-(CH_2)_q-$  or  $-(CH_2)_{q'}O-$  where q is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and q' is 2 or 3;

J is (i) a group  $-CR^5 = CR^6-$  where  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are independently hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl; or

(ii) a group  $-CHR^7-CHR^8-$  where  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  are independently hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{3-7}$ cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, a group  $-NHCOR^9-$  or  $-NHSO_2R^9-$  in which  $R^9$  is as defined above or a group  $-(CH_2)_{1-6}NR^xR^y-$  in which  $R^x$  and  $R^y$  are as defined above; or

(iii) a single bond; or

(iv)  $-CHR^6-$  where  $R^6$  is as defined above; or

(v) a group  $-O-CHR^{10}-$ ,  $-NR^{11}-CHR^{10}-$  or  $-CR^{12}R^{13}-CHR^{10}-$  where  $R^{10}$  and  $R^{11}$  are independently hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  are independently  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl or  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  combine together to form a  $C_{3-7}$ cycloalkyl or a 5 - 7 membered heterocyclic ring;

m, n and p are independently 0, 1, 2 or 3; and

t is 0, 1 or 2.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein A is phenyl or pyridyl.

3. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 or 2, wherein B is phenyl.

4. **(Currently Amended)** A compound according to Claim 1, wherein

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, hydroxy, cyano, CF<sub>3</sub>, nitro, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylthio, amino, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamino, carboxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyl, amido, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamido, NHCOR<sup>9</sup> or NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup> in which R<sup>9</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl or phenyl (optionally substituted by up to three groups selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, cyano, phenyl or CF<sub>3</sub>) or is a group -E-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-6</sub>NR<sup>X</sup>RY in which E is a single bond or -OCH<sub>2</sub>- and R<sup>X</sup> and R<sup>Y</sup> are independently hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or combine together to form a ring ~~including~~ selected from piperidinyl, piperazinyl, pyrrolidinyl or morpholinyl group in which ring is optionally substituted by C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl;

When Q and V combine together to form a ring ~~including~~ selected from piperidinyl, piperazinyl, pyrrolidinyl or morpholinyl group, which is optionally substituted by C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl;

When Q and D combine together to form a ring ~~including~~ selected from piperidinyl, piperazinyl, pyrrolidinyl or morpholinyl group, which is optionally substituted by C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl;

J is (i) a group -CR<sup>5</sup>=CR<sup>6</sup>- where R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; or

(ii) a group -CHR<sup>7</sup>-CHR<sup>8</sup>- where R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are independently hydrogen,

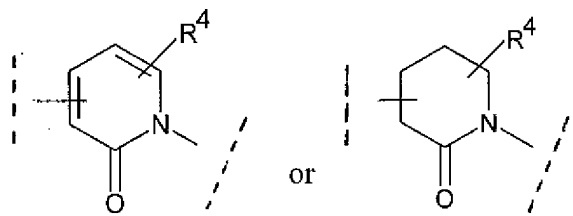
C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, furyl, pyrrolyl, triazolyl, imidazolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, oxadiazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrimidyl, pyridazinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridyl quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, indolyl, benzofuryl, benzothienyl, benzimidazolyl, benzoxazolyl, a group -NHCOR<sup>9</sup>- or -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup>- in which R<sup>9</sup> is as defined above or a group -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-6</sub>NR<sup>x</sup>R<sup>y</sup>- in which NR<sup>x</sup> and R<sup>y</sup> are as defined above; or

(iii) a single bond; or

(iv) -CHR<sup>6</sup>- where R<sup>6</sup> is as defined above; or

(v) a group -O-CHR<sup>10</sup>-, -NR<sup>11</sup>-CHR<sup>10</sup>- or -CR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>13</sup>CHR<sup>10</sup>- where R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> are independently C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> combine together to form C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl, tetrahydropyranyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, pyrrolidinyl or morpholinyl;

the ring containing W, X, Y and Z is



5. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, wherein

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, halogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy;

Q is C, CH or together with the group V or group D form part of a benzimidazole, benzoxazole or indoline ring;

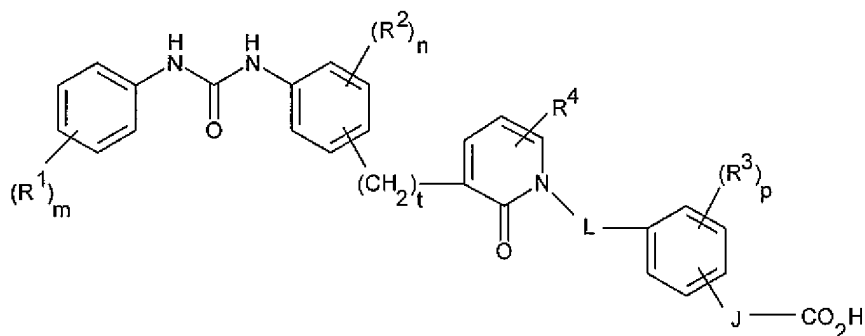
D is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or together with the group Q form part of a benzimidazole or benzoxazole ring;

V is O or together with the group Q form part of an indoline ring;

R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen or halogen;

- J is
- (i) a group -CR<sup>5</sup>=CR<sup>6</sup>- where R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; or
  - (ii) a group -CHR<sup>7</sup>-CHR<sup>8</sup>- where R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are independently hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl, phenyl, a group -NHCOR<sup>9</sup>- in which R<sup>9</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; or
  - (iii) a single bond;
  - (iv) -CHR<sup>6</sup>- where R<sup>6</sup> is as defined above; or
  - (v) a group -O-CHR<sup>10</sup>-, -NR<sup>11</sup>-CHR<sup>10</sup>- or -CR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>13</sup>CHR<sup>10</sup>- where R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> are independently C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> combine together to form C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl group.

6. **(Currently Amended)** A compound ~~according to claim 1, wherein the compound is~~ of formula (Ia), a carboxylic acid ester or a pharmaceutically acceptable ~~derivative~~ salt thereof:



(Ia)

wherein:

$R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, L, J, m, n, p$  and  $t$  are as defined in formula (I)  $R^1, R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, halogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy, hydroxy, cyano,  $CF_3$ , nitro,  $C_{1-6}$ alkylthio, amino, mono- or di- $C_{1-6}$ alkylamino, carboxy,  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoyl, amido, mono- or di- $C_{1-6}$ alkylamido,  $NHCOR^9$  or  $NHSO_2R^9$  in which  $R^9$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{3-7}$ cycloalkyl or phenyl (optionally substituted by up to three groups selected from  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, halogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy, cyano, phenyl or  $CF_3$ ) or is a group -  
 $E-(CH_2)_{1-6}NR^X R^Y$  in which  $E$  is a single bond or  $-OCH_2-$  and  $R^X$  and  $R^Y$  are independently hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl or combine together to form a 5 - 7 membered heterocyclic ring;

$R^4$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, halogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy;

$L$  is  $-(CH_2)_q-$  or  $-(CH_2)_qO-$  where  $q$  is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and  $q'$  is 2 or 3;

$J$  is (i) a group  $-CR^5 = CR^6-$  where  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are independently hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl; or

(ii) a group  $-CHR^7-CHR^8-$  where  $R^7$  and  $R^8$  are independently hydrogen,

C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, a group -NHCOR<sup>9</sup>- or -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup>- in which

R<sup>9</sup> is as defined above or a group -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-6</sub>NR<sup>x</sup>R<sup>y</sup>- in which R<sup>x</sup> and R<sup>y</sup> are as defined  
above; or

(iii) a single bond; or

(iv) -CHR<sup>6</sup>- where R<sup>6</sup> is as defined above; or

(v) a group -O-CHR<sup>10</sup>-, -NR<sup>11</sup>-CHR<sup>10</sup>- or -CR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>13</sup>-CHR<sup>10</sup>- where R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are  
independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> are independently C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or  
R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> combine together to form a C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl or a 5 - 7 membered  
heterocyclic ring;

m, n and p are independently 0, 1, 2 or 3; and

t is 0, 1 or 2.

**7. (Currently Amended)** A compound according to Claim 1 wherein:

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, hydroxy, cyano, CF<sub>3</sub>, nitro, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylthio, amino, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamino, carboxy, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkanoyl, amido, mono- or di-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkylamido, NHCOR<sup>9</sup> or NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup> in which R<sup>9</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl or phenyl optionally substituted by up to three groups selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkoxy, cyano, phenyl or CF<sub>3</sub>;

L is -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>q</sub>- where q is 0, 1, 2 or 3; and

- J is (i) a group - CR<sup>5</sup> = CR<sup>6</sup>- where R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; or
- (ii) a group -CHR<sup>7</sup>-CHR<sup>8</sup>- where R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are independently hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or a group -NHCOR<sup>9</sup>- or -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup>- in which R<sup>9</sup> is as defined in claim 1.

8. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein J is a group - CH = CH-, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-, -CHR<sup>7</sup>-CH<sub>2</sub>- in which R<sup>7</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A compound according to claim 1 which is selected from the group consisting of E1 - E 51 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof 3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido) phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-yl methyl}phenyl)propionic acid;  
3-(3-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido) phenyl]-2H -pyridin-1-ylmethyl}phenyl)propionic acid;  
(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenoxy)-acetic acid;  
4-(2-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-yl}-ethyl)-benzoic acid;  
3-(4-{3-[3-Methoxy-4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2-oxo-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-propionic acid;  
(3-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenoxy)-acetic acid;  
3-(4-{5-Chloro-2-oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido) phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}phenyl)propionic acid;  
4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-benzoic acid;  
(±)-3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-yl methyl}-phenyl)-butyric acid;

(±)-3-(3-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-yl methyl}-phenyl)-butyric acid;

[Methyl-(4-{2-oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-amino]-acetic acid;

(±)-3-(4-{3-[3-Methoxy-4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2-oxo-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-butyric acid;

3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-propionic acid methyl ester;

[Methyl-(3-{2-oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-amino]-acetic acid;

3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-propionic acid ethyl ester;

4-(2-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-yl}-ethoxy)-benzoic acid;

3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-propionic acid cyclohexyloxycarbonyloxymethyl ester;

3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-propionic acid isopropoxycarbonyloxymethyl ester;

3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-propionic acid acetoxymethyl ester;

3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-propionic acid isopropyl ester;

[3-(2-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-yl}-ethyl)-phenyl]-acetic acid;

[4-(2-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-yl}-ethyl)-phenyl]-acetic acid;

(±)-2-Acetylamino-3-(4-{2-oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-

ylmethyl}phenyl)propionic acid;

(3-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-acetic acid;

3-[4-(3-{4-[3-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-ureido]-3-methoxy-phenyl}-2-oxo-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl)-

phenyl]-propionic acid;

3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-phenyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

3-[4-(3-{4-[3-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-ureido]-phenyl}-2-oxo-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-

propionic acid;

3-[4-(3-{4-[3-(2,3-Difluoro-phenyl)-ureido]-phenyl}-2-oxo-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-

propionic acid;

3-[4-(3-{4-[3-(3-Fluoro-2-methyl-phenyl)-ureido]-phenyl}-2-oxo-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl)-

phenyl]-propionic acid;

3-(4-{3-[2-Fluoro-4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido) phenyl]-2-oxo-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}phenyl) propionic

acid;

(S) - (+)-3- (4-{2-Oxo-3-[4- (3-o-tolylureido) phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}phenyl) butyric acid;

(R)-(-)-3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolylureido)phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}phenyl) butyric acid;

(±) -3- (4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-yl methyl}-phenyl)-3-phenyl-

propionic acid;

(S)-(+)-3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-pentanoic

acid;

(R)-(-)-3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-pentanoic

acid;

3-Methyl -3-(4-{2-oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-butyric acid;

[1-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-cyclopentyl]-acetic acid;

3-(4-{2-Oxo-1-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)benzyl]-1,2-dihydropyridin-3-yl}phenyl)propionic acid;

3-[4-(3-{4-[(1-2,3-Dihydroindol-1-yl-methanoyl)amino]phenyl}-2-oxo-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl)phenyl]propionic acid;

3-{4-[2'-Oxo-5-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-2'H-[2, 3']bipyridinyl-1'-ylmethyl] phenyl}propionic acid;

(S)-(+)-3-{4-[2'-Oxo-5-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-2'H-[2, 3']bipyridinyl-1'-ylmethyl]phenyl}butyric acid sodium salt;

(R)-(-)-3-{4-[2'-Oxo-5-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-2'H-[2,3']bipyridinyl-1'-ylmethyl]phenyl}butyric acid sodium salt;

(R)-(-)-3-{4-[2-Oxo-6'-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-2H-[3,3']bipyridinyl-1-ylmethyl]phenyl}butyric acid hydrochloric acid salt;

(R)-(-)-3-{4-[2'-Oxo-5-(3-phenyl-ureido)-2'H-[2,3']bipyridinyl-1'-ylmethyl]phenyl}butyric acid hydrochloric acid salt;

(R)-(-)-3-(4-{5-[3-(2-Fluorophenyl)-ureido]-2'-oxo-2H-[2,3']bipyridinyl-1'-ylmethyl}phenyl)butyric acid hydrochloric acid salt;

(±)-3-(3-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido) phenyl]piperidin-1-ylmethyl}phenyl)propionic acid;

(±)-3-(4-{3-[3-Methoxy-4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2-oxo-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(±)-3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(±)-3-(4-{3-[3-Methoxy-4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2-oxo-piperidin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-butyric acid;

3-(4-{2-oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)phenyl]piperidin-1-yl}phenyl)propionic acid; and

(±)-3-(4-{3-[3-Methoxy-4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2-oxo-piperidin-1-yl}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

a carboxylic acid ester or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A compound according to claim 1 which is selected from the group consisting of E5, E9, E32, E41, E42 and E51 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof

3-(4-{3-[3-Methoxy-4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2-oxo-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

(±)-3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}-phenyl)-butyric acid;

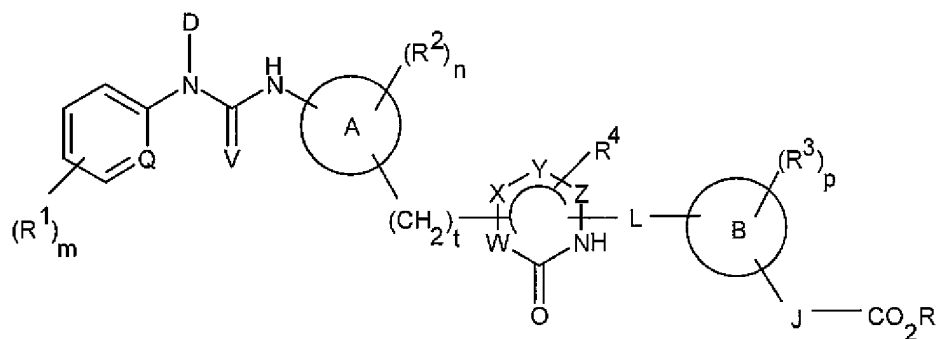
(R)-(-)-3-(4-{2-Oxo-3-[4-(3-o-tolylureido)phenyl]-2H-pyridin-1-ylmethyl}phenyl) butyric acid;

(S)-(+)-3-{4-[2'-Oxo-5-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-2'H-[2,3']bipyridinyl-1'-ylmethyl]phenyl}butyric acid sodium salt; and

(±)-3-(4-{3-[3-Methoxy-4-(3-o-tolyl-ureido)-phenyl]-2-oxo-piperidin-1-yl}-phenyl)-propionic acid;

a carboxylic acid ester or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) which comprises hydrolysis of a carboxylic acid ester derivative of formula (II):



(II)

in which  $R^1$ – $R^4$ ,  $m$ ,  $n$ ,  $p$ ,  $t$ ,  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $D$ ,  $L$ ,  $J$ ,  $Q$ ,  $V$ ,  $W$ ,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are as defined in formula (I) and  
wherein

$A$  and  $B$  are independently aryl or heteroaryl;

$Q$  is C, CH or together with the group  $V$  or group  $D$  forms a 5 - 7 membered heterocyclic ring;

$D$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl or together with the group  $Q$  forms a 5 - 7 membered heterocyclic ring;

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, halogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy, hydroxy, cyano,  $CF_3$ , nitro,  $C_{1-6}$ alkylthio, amino, mono- or di- $C_{1-6}$ alkylamino, carboxy,  $C_{1-6}$ alkanoyl, amido, mono- or di- $C_{1-6}$ alkylamido,  $NHCO_2R^9$  or  $NHSO_2R^9$  in which  $R^9$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{3-7}$ cycloalkyl or phenyl (optionally substituted by up to three groups selected from  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, halogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy, cyano, phenyl or  $CF_3$ ) or is a group  $-E-(CH_2)_{1-6}NR^XRY$  in which  $E$  is a single bond or  $-OCH_2-$  and  $R^X$  and  $R^Y$  are independently hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl or combine together to form a 5 - 7 membered heterocyclic ring;

$R^4$  is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, halogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy;

V is O, S, NH, N-C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, NNO<sub>2</sub>, NCN or together with the group Q forms a 5 - 7 membered heterocyclic ring;

W, X, Y and Z are independently C, CH or CH<sub>2</sub>;

----- represents a single or double bond;

L is -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>q</sub>- or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>q</sub>'O- where q is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and q' is 2 or 3;

J is (i) a group - CR<sup>5</sup> = CR<sup>6</sup>- where R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; or

(ii) a group -CHR<sup>7</sup>-CHR<sup>8</sup>- where R<sup>7</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> are independently hydrogen,

C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, a group -NHCOR<sup>9</sup>- or -NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup>- in which

R<sup>9</sup> is as defined above or a group -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1-6</sub>NR<sup>x</sup>R<sup>y</sup>- in which R<sup>x</sup> and R<sup>y</sup> are as defined above; or

(iii) a single bond; or

(iv) -CHR<sup>6</sup>- where R<sup>6</sup> is as defined above; or

(v) a group -O-CHR<sup>10</sup>-, -NR<sup>11</sup>-CHR<sup>10</sup>- or -CR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>13</sup>-CHR<sup>10</sup>- where R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are

independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> are independently C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl or

R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> combine together to form a C<sub>3-7</sub>cycloalkyl or a 5 - 7 membered

heterocyclic ring;

m, n and p are independently 0, 1, 2 or 3; and

t is 0, 1 or 2; and R is a group capable of forming a carboxylic acid ester and optionally thereafter forming a ~~pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof~~ a carboxylic acid ester or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. **(Cancelled)**

13. **(Currently Amended)** A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, a carboxylic acid ester or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

14. **(Currently Amended)** A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1, a carboxylic acid ester or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative salt thereof together with another therapeutically active agent.

15. **(Withdrawn)** The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 10 in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of conditions in which an inhibitor of  $\alpha_4$  mediated cell adhesion is beneficial.

16. **(Withdrawn)** A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of conditions in which an inhibitor of  $\alpha_4$  mediated cell adhesion is beneficial which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a safe and effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 10.

17. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 16, wherein said condition is selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis; asthma; allergic conditions; adult respiratory distress syndrome; AIDS-dementia; Alzheimer's disease; cardiovascular diseases; thrombosis or harmful platelet aggregation; reocclusion following thrombolysis; reperfusion injury; skin inflammatory diseases; diabetes; multiple sclerosis; systemic lupus erythematosus; inflammatory bowel disease; diseases associated with leukocyte infiltration to the gastrointestinal tract; diseases associated with leukocyte infiltration to epithelial lined tissues; pancreatitis; mastitis; hepatitis; cholecystitis; cholangitis or pericholangitis; bronchitis; sinusitis; inflammatory diseases of the lung; collagen disease; sarcoidosis; osteoporosis; osteoarthritis; atherosclerosis; neoplastic diseases; wound; eye diseases; Sjogren's syndrome; rejection after organ transplantation; host vs. graft or graft vs. host diseases; intimal hyperplasia; arteriosclerosis; reinfarction or restenosis after surgery; nephritis; tumor angiogenesis; malignant tumor; multiple myeloma and myeloma-induced bone resorption; sepsis, central nervous system injury and Meniere's disease.

18. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 16, wherein said condition is asthma, allergic conditions, inflammatory bowel disease, rheumatoid arthritis, atopic dermatitis, multiple sclerosis or rejection after organ transplantation.